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Media Release

Released 6/12/2024

Source: [Labour Account Australia, September 2024](#)

The number of filled jobs rose by 1.6 per cent to 16.0 million rounded in September quarter 2024, according to figures released today by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

David Taylor, ABS head of labour statistics, said: "Filled jobs rose by 257,100 in September quarter 2024, continuing the growth we've seen since COVID-19 Delta variant measures eased in December quarter 2021.

"Since then, the number of filled jobs in the Australian labour market has grown by 1.5 million jobs or 10.7 per cent."

Hours worked grew 0.8 per cent in September quarter 2024, however, was only up 0.7 per cent compared to June quarter 2023 when the labour market was particularly tight.

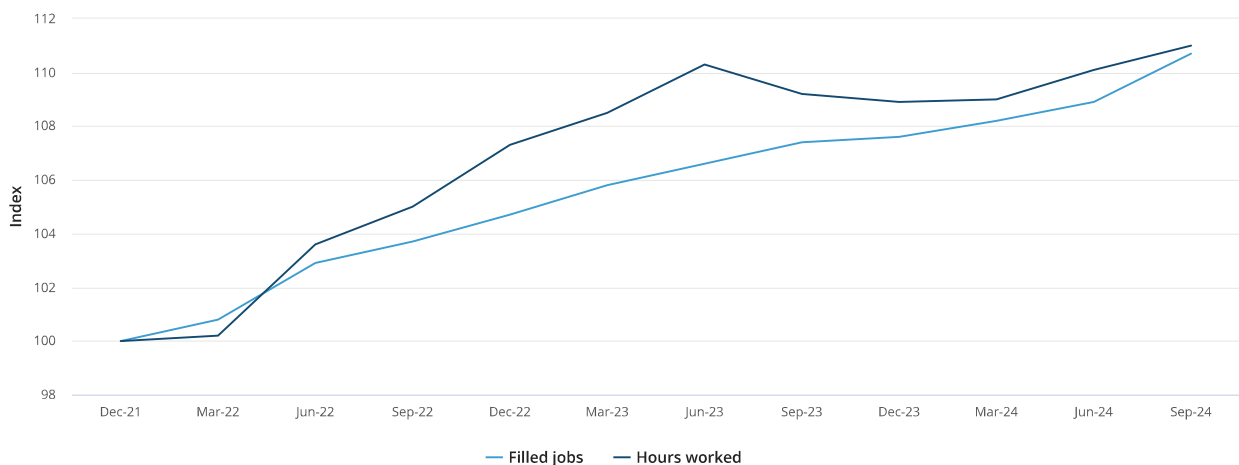
"Between December quarter 2021 and June quarter 2023, we saw strong growth in hours worked of 10.3 per cent compared to filled jobs at 6.6 per cent," Mr Taylor said.

"Since June quarter 2023, quarterly hours worked has softened and we're starting to see a more consistent relationship with other labour market measures like filled jobs and employment, as noted in recent [Labour Force Survey \(/media-centre/media-releases/unemployment-rate-steady-41-october\)](#) data.

"Growth in filled jobs and hours worked since December quarter 2021 are now very similar, with filled jobs rising 10.7 per cent and hours worked up 11.0 per cent."

Feedback

Filled jobs and hours worked, indexed to December 2021



The multiple job-holding rate rose 0.1 percentage points to 6.6 per cent in September quarter, reflecting a 2.8 per cent rise in the number of multiple job-holders (27,000) and a 1.1 per cent rise in employed people (161,000).

This returns the multiple job-holding rate to its average over the past two years.

“Job vacancies fell a further 17.8 per cent annually, but were still 48.3 per cent higher than before the pandemic,” Mr Taylor said.

Health care and social assistance drives growth in filled jobs

Filled jobs rose in 15 of the 19 industries in September quarter, led by Health care and social assistance (+109,700) and Professional, scientific and technical services (+30,600).

These rises were partially offset by a fall in the remaining four industries, including Administrative and support services (-26,100).

Hours worked grew in 10 industries during the quarter and dropped in the remaining nine industries.

The largest quarterly percentage rise was seen in Manufacturing (+3.1 per cent), while the largest quarterly percentage fall was in Arts and recreation services (-2.5 per cent).

“Health care and social assistance continued to be a key driver of labour market strength, with 4.3 per cent growth in filled jobs this quarter and 11.4 per cent annually,” Mr Taylor said.

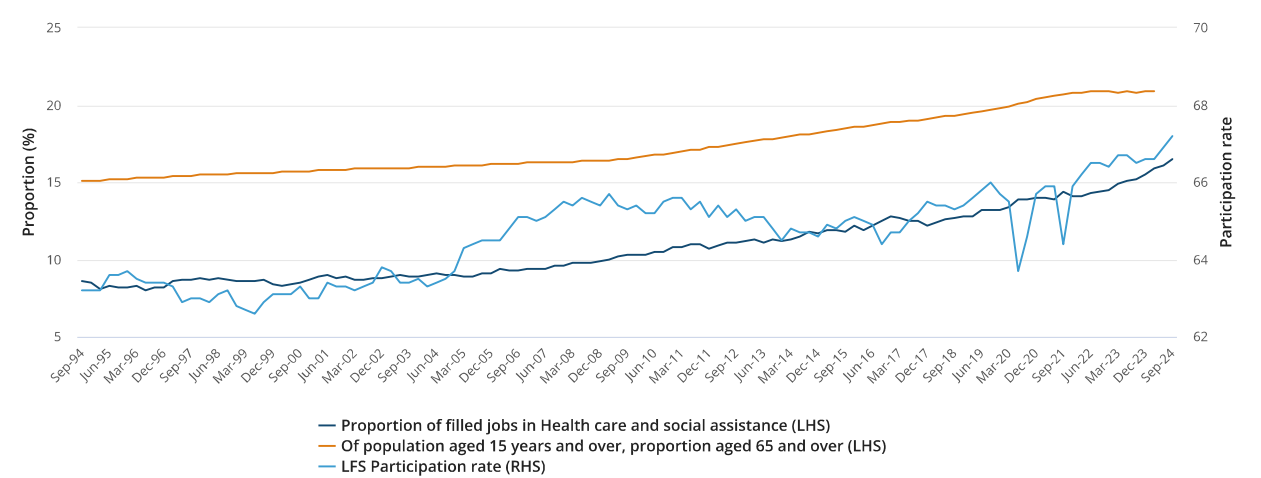
“This takes the total number of filled jobs in the industry to 2.6 million.

“One in six filled jobs is now worked in the Health care and social assistance industry, compared to almost one in 12 at the start of the [Labour Account time series in September quarter 1994 \(/articles/spotlight-australian-labour-market-over-last-30-years\)](#).

“As we explored in the [March quarter 2024 Labour Account release \(/media-centre/media-releases/labour-market-growth-continued-slow-early-2024\)](#), essential services industries have been showing strong labour market growth, particularly over the past two years.

“Recent growth in Health care and social assistance coincides with a period of record high labour force participation. This comes as more parents and carers seek childcare services, and demand increases from an ageing Australian population for both residential and home-based care services.”

Growth in Health care and social assistance and contributing factors



Sources: [Labour Account Australia, September 2024 \(/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/sep-2024\)](#); [National, state and territory population, March 2024 \(/statistics/people/population/national-state-and-territory-population/mar-2024#data-explorer-datasets\)](#); and [Labour Force, Australia, October 2024 \(/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia/oct-2024#participation\)](#).



Media notes

- The Australian Labour Account complements other ABS measures to build a more comprehensive picture of the labour market. Labour Account provides the number of filled jobs at a point-in-time each quarter, while the annual Jobs in Australia provides insights into all jobs held throughout the year, and Labour Force Survey measures the number of people employed each month.
- With today's release of the Labour Account, the time series now contains 30 years of data. [Spotlight on the Australian labour market over the last 30 years \(/articles/spotlight-australian-labour-market-over-last-30-years\)](#) provides a series of summary snapshots exploring changes in the Australian labour market using Labour Account data.
- The ABS recently released [Measuring the labour contribution of unpaid care in the Labour Account \(/statistics/detailed-methodology-information/information-papers/measuring-labour-contribution-unpaid-care-labour-account\)](#). This information paper is a first step towards expanding the Labour Account to include measures of unpaid care. It includes information on initial concepts and methods, and experimental data on the total hours and monetary value of unpaid childcare.
- Additional insights on multiple job-holders can be found in the multi-source [Multiple job-holders release \(/statistics/labour/jobs/multiple-job-holders/sep-2024\)](#), which is published on the same day as the quarterly Labour Account. The release combines data from a number of complementary labour sources to offer valuable additional detail into characteristics of multiple job-holders.
- Data contained in this media release refer to seasonally adjusted estimates, unless otherwise stated.
- To learn more about our different labour measures, their purpose and how to use them, see our [Guide to labour statistics \(/statistics/understanding-statistics/guide-labour-statistics\)](#). It provides summary information on labour market topics including [Industry employment \(/statistics/understanding-statistics/guide-labour-statistics/industry-employment-guide\)](#) data.
- Access official, high-resolution images of ABS media spokespeople from our [image library \(/media-centre/abs-image-library\)](#).
- A glossary of terms used in this media release is available with the publication.
- When reporting ABS data you must attribute the Australian Bureau of Statistics (or the ABS) as the source.
- For media requests and interviews, contact the ABS Media Team on 1300 175 070 or media@abs.gov.au (<mailto:media@abs.gov.au>) (monitored 8:30am-5pm Canberra time, Monday-Friday).
- [Watch our data crash course \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=le2K3PNejU4&list=PLR8_RxifMwL4jQTxYclMANzga67VBlyhj&index=11\)](#), designed especially for journalists to learn how to find, download and interpret our data.
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